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APPARENT COLOUR SELECTIVITY BY PARARGE AEGERIA L. WHEN FEEDING AT FLOWERS. — This butterfly is seen feeding at flowers in Britain only infrequently. In late August and September 1967, and in the four succeeding years, I saw it feeding at flowers of copper-coloured single chrysanthemums in my garden at Dartford, yet never at those of other colours (red, pink and yellow), nor at flowers of Buddleia davidii Sedum spectabile (pink), Lychnis coronaria (pink), Michaelmas daisies (Aster sp. blue) and single dahlias of various colours popular with other species of butterflies. The chrysanthemums deteriorated, despite propagation annually by cuttings, and were discontinued.

On September 8th 1979, a specimen of P. aegeria was noticed feeding at the golden flowers with a brown centre of a cultivar of Rudeckia speciosa in my garden, and again on five subsequent days, although perhaps the same specimen appeared on all or some of these occasions. Each time the butterfly made occasional moves from one clump to another paying no attention to other flowers popular with other butterflies, and these included those mentioned above with the addition of Inula hookeri (yellow), sweet wivelsfield (Dianthus hybrid — pink and red) and a hedge of Lathyrus latifolius

(pink).

However, records show that elsewhere P. egeria has been observed feeding at flowers of other colours, e.g. blackthorn, bramble and buddleia, although the first two examples would refer to earlier broods. — B. K. WEST, 36 Briar Road, Bexley,

Kent.

CNAEMIDOPHORUS RHODODACTYLA (DENIS & SCHIFF.) IN HAMPSHIRE. — On 15th July 1977 I disturbed a single specimen of this distinctive moth in Botley Wood, South Hampshire. The moth may, perhaps, be overlooked in other localities because of its secretive nature; this specimen made no attempt to fly when its rose-bush was tapped but dropped straight to the ground, and was only noticed because it fell on a patch of bare earth. There seem to be no previous Hampshire records of this species: Goater in "Butterflies and Moths of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight" includes it in square brackets with the comment that it was given by Fassnidge as a doubtful record. - J. D. CHADD, College of the Resurrection, Mirfield, West Yorkshire.